

🍀 Brian Boru's March 🍀

Melody: Part A

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The first system of musical notation for 'Brian Boru's March' is in 3/4 time. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff for the melody and a bass clef staff for the accompaniment. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a dotted quarter note A4, an eighth note B4, and a quarter note C5. The bass staff features a whole note chord of G2, B1, and D2, which is sustained across the first two measures.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. The melody starts with a dotted quarter note D5, followed by an eighth note E5, a quarter note F5, and a quarter note G5. The bass staff continues with a whole note chord of G2, B1, and D2, sustained across the first two measures.

The third system of musical notation continues the piece. The melody starts with a dotted quarter note A5, followed by an eighth note B5, a quarter note C6, and a quarter note D6. The bass staff continues with a whole note chord of G2, B1, and D2, sustained across the first two measures.

The fourth system of musical notation concludes the piece. The melody starts with a dotted quarter note E6, followed by an eighth note F6, a quarter note G6, and a quarter note A6. The bass staff continues with a whole note chord of G2, B1, and D2, sustained across the first two measures. The system ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.



Brian Boru was a mighty king who united the Irish tribes against the Vikings just over a millennium ago. He might have been an accomplished harpist. Although this is uncertain, he certainly was a proud supporter of the bardic arts, supporting poets and harpists within his clan.

The "Brian Boru Harp" was crafted in honour of him about 300 years after his death (1014) and remained in Limerick until the 1700's, when the blind harpist Arthur O'Neill restrung the instrument and marched through the city. O'Neill's playing stirred great nationalistic sentiment, and he wrote in his memoirs: "The Lord be merciful to you, Brian Boru! I hope in God that I will tune your harp in your presence in Heaven!"

- from a Jaquie Lawson.com e-card